

**ORDINANCE NO. BL2018-1200**

**An ordinance amending Chapter 6.28 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws regarding hotels and roominghouses.**

WHEREAS, because of the inherently transient nature of their patrons, hotels, motels and roominghouses can often provide venues for illegal activities, including human trafficking, prostitution, and the sale and use of illegal drugs; and

WHEREAS, the provision of hotel, motel and roominghouse services through transactions that are limited to a cash-only basis make it difficult if not impossible to trace illegal activity because a cash-only policy allows for greater obscurity in recording such transactions; and

WHEREAS, hotels, motels and roominghouses that accept only cash transactions may foster an atmosphere conducive to illegal activity, including but not limited to human trafficking, prostitution, and the sale and use of illegal drugs; and

WHEREAS, requiring hotels, motels, and roominghouses to provide payment receipts to patrons will provide documentation for all transactions, including cash-only transactions, where evidence of the transaction may not otherwise exist; and

WHEREAS, accepting multiple forms of payment and providing receipts to patrons will aid in deterring criminal activity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. That Chapter 6.28 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws is hereby amended by adding the following new section 6.28.050:

**6.28.050 – Payments**

- A. If a hotel, motel, or roominghouse accepts cash payment, it must further accept at least one other form of payment, such as credit card, debit card, or check.
- B. Upon payment by a guest for accommodation, a hotel, motel, or roominghouse must provide the patron with a receipt reflecting payment and maintain a record thereof.

Section 2. That this Ordinance shall take effect immediately after its passage, the welfare of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

SPONSORED BY:

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DeCosta Hastings  
Member of Council